

January 2022

# The Shepherd's Messenger



Pastor Becky's Letter	1
Prayer List	2
January Celebrations	2
January Helping Hands	2
Statistics	2
Puzzle	3
Recipe	3
"Dudley Tails"	4
Holiday Assistance Program	5
Meeting Notice	6
January Calendar	7



KNOWING JESUS AS THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD & SHARING  
THE RISEN CHRIST WITH ALL.



Greetings Friends!

As we embark upon a New Year, once again, we find that we are still dealing with this Pandemic in the United States of America. But, as you know, the entire world is going through much of the same.

I don't know about you, but perhaps there was a sense of hope last year at this time that as we turned the page on 2020, this would all be behind us within a few months. But that's not the case despite man's best efforts of masks, vaccines, and mandates!

While humanity can only do what we can in our strength, I want to remind you today that God is still on the Throne regardless of where we have been or where we are going!

There is a wonderful verse of scripture which serves as a reminder of who God is found in Revelation 22:13, **"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."**

While we cannot possibly know what the future holds, we know who holds the future! We are not even gifted enough to know what tomorrow will bring to us, but as Christians, we need to rest assured that God does!

When I understand just a bit of how much God loves me, it puts my mind at ease about His plans and purposes.

This New Year will unfold as God has planned it to happen. Not one thing will take place that does not first sift through the loving hands of an almighty God.

There are many times I don't understand the ways of God, but that's really not something we should concern ourselves with. We must only trust Him!

Isaiah 55:8, **"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.**

Moving forward into this New Year, I want to encourage you to live your life to the glory of God. We can live in confidence and not timidity! We can live our lives in boldness and assurance because God is on the Throne!

There's a beautiful song written by Bill Gaither many years ago, and the lyrics are as powerful today (maybe more so) as when they were written:

*Continued on Page 5*

PLEASE PRAY FOR:  
Our World situation

Others to keep in prayer:

- Norma Andrus
- Todd Baxter
- Russell Brown
- Gary Carlson
- Hazel Cornell
- David Edwards
- Brian Fries
- Don Hall
- David Halstead
- Donna Hart
- Bernie Hawks
- Jean Higby
- Bob Huddleston
- Andrew James
- Katie Kellogg
- Bruce Metler
- Helen Middaugh
- Mark Middaugh
- Nellie Moses
- Justin Murphy
- Keith Pierce
- Laroy Spateholts
- Donald Thompson
- Jessica Veiders
- JoAnn Viglietta
- Clint Wilder
- James Woodruff
- Ken Wyant



Please keep our prayer list up to date.

If someone should be added or removed from the prayer list, please submit their name in writing.

*Thank you!*



- 15- Vanessa Clement
- 17 - Amanda (Clayson) Ryder  
Chris Berardi
- 18 - Janet Enderle
- 19 - Butch Holden
- 23 - Jessica (Clayson) Veiders
- 25 - Peter Simmons
- 30 - Pastor Becky Worth
- 31 - Bernie Hawks



**Colter Dean Torrey**, grandson of Rob and Rhonda Cornell, and son of Kate and Levi, was born on Christmas Day at 9:50 pm. 7 lbs 7.5 oz., 19 inches long.

**Praying for Our Churches, Pastors and Leadership in Cornerstone District:**

**January 2 East Otto UMC.** Missy Ulinger, her husband Timothy and their family.

**January 9 East Randolph UMC.** Rev. Chuck Smith, his wife Kim and their family.

**January 16 Edwards Chapel & Watts Flats UMCs.** Pastor Warren VanDewark, his wife Diane and their family.

**January 23 Findley Lake UMC.** Rev. Dave Cooke, his wife Heather and their children Ben, Grace & Nathan.

**January 30 Fredonia:First UMC.** Pastor Nettie Puleff and her family.

Statistics                      Needed: \$1,736

Date	Worship	SS	Offering
11/28	39		\$ 903.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 263.00
12/5	39		\$3,139.00
		Gil's Hills	\$ 50.00
12/12	41		\$1,164.00
12/19	42		\$2,398.00
12/24	57	Christmas Eve	325.00
12/26	28		\$1,946.95
12/26		Gil's Hills	\$ 100.00

January  
Helping  
Hands



Power Point:  
Rob Cornell

Pianist/Organist:  
Christine Berardi

Altar Guild:  
Thela Snow



**Sue Simmons** is the UMW's **Cheer Person**. If you know of someone who needs a note of cheer, please call her at **585-968-1135**.



*Thanks So Much!*

Thank you CUMC family, for the cards, calls, visits and prayers during my 7 week recovery...it has been...a humbling experience.

Cindy Dutton

# Puzzle!

Match each clue with the correct biblical dreamer.  
Use the Scripture hints if needed.

---

1. This person's brothers were irritated to hear of certain dreams.
2. Angels went up and down a ladder in this person's dreams.
3. This person dreamed about skinny cows eating fat cows.
4. After an unpleasant dream, this person warned a loved one to avoid Jesus.
5. This person saw a statue whose feet were smashed by a stone.
6. A dream warned this person (plus family) to flee to Egypt.
7. This person saw a vine produce grapes, with juice squeezed into a cup.
8. A dream warned about Herod's evil plan.

- A. Pharaoh (Genesis 41:17-21)
- B. The Magi (Matthew 2:12)
- C. Jacob (Genesis 28:12)
- D. Pharaoh's cupbearer (Genesis 40:9-11)
- E. NT Joseph (Matthew 2:13)
- F. OT Joseph (Genesis 37:9, 11)
- G. Pilate's wife (Matthew 27:19)
- H. Daniel (Daniel 2:31-35)

---

Answers: 1.F, 2.C, 3.A, 4.G, 5.H, 6.E, 7.D, 8.B

## VIRGINIA BRUNSWICK STEW

Cindy Dutton

1 chicken, cooked in 1 qt. water.  
Cool; debone and cut up chicken.  
Return to broth.

Add to broth:

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 (14oz) cans diced tomatoes
- 2 (14 oz) cans tomato soup
- 1 (16 oz) bag frozen baby lima beans
- 1 (16 oz) bag frozen shoe peg or white corn (there is no salt added)

Simmer 2 hours. Add 3 (leftover) mashed potatoes, or instant potato flakes to thicken. Serves 10.



Recipe  
FROM THE  
Cuba UMC  
Cook Book

*From the Church Secretary:*

**Thank you** so much to all who gave me Christmas cards and gifts.



Happy New Year to all!

Jim



## DUDLEY TAILS

*Submitted by Cheryl Wildrick*

Dudley is not always predictable.

Yes, as a puppy, Dudley could be counted on to: follow his master around, to run from strangers, and to cry during the night.

As he got older, Dudley would play outdoors with Tucker (our small collie). Dudley could be counted on to chase a thrown ball, and to want a treat too... when Tucker retrieved the ball.

When Dudley matured, his behavior surprised his master. In the morning, as Tucker slept on his Tucker-sized bed, Dudley would walk over and bark (one loud bark) at Tucker. If Tucker did not move, Dudley would bark one loud bark again. This continued until Tucker got up, and Dudley was able to take over Tucker's bed.

Years later, when Tucker died, Dudley began to become more unpredictable. He no longer wanted to go outside alone in our fenced yard. He clung to his master's side when a relative brought her puppy over to visit. And... he did not want to go for a walk, if a stray cat had come into our breezeway that connected our house to our garage.

What had happened to Dudley? Had he lost his confidence when he lost Tucker? Was he afraid of the unknown when a stray cat visited? Had Dudley forgotten that his master would always be there for him in times of need?

As the months passed (back then) and cool fall weather arrived... so did, "Miss Kitty." It was evident that she had been someone's house cat, but now was on her own. This became the era of "Miss Kitty's condo" and "free lunch." When Dudley and his master left the house for a walk, Dudley learned to let Miss Kitty rub against him and show affection. But now Miss Kitty was moving on. Over a year ago, a grandson met Miss Kitty and was thrilled that she would let him pick her up, and that she would stay on his lap to be petted. He finally got the okay to bring Miss Kitty home.

So, how will Dudley react to Miss Kitty's absence? Or, better yet... how will Dudley react when he sees Miss Kitty at the grandson's house? That question will soon be answered... but, for now, the question is: will Dudley learn to get along with "Butch" the orange male cat that likes to spend winters at Miss Kitty's condo, and enjoy free meals?

Just as Dudley lost his good pal, Tucker, we too lose loved ones throughout our lives. This becomes a time to reflect on the words of Solomon, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

Dudley will be surprised to see Miss Kitty living at a different location, but won't wonder "how" or "why" she is there. Christians will know "how" and "why" they are in heaven. David says that the Lord, guided him "in the path of righteousness," and that David will, "dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (Psalm 23)

Unlike Dudley, we humans are told about our futures (which are determined by the choices we make now). Jesus said that faith in Him (as God's son, and as mankind's Saviour from sin and eternal death) will allow us into heaven. There we will experience eternal life, eternal joy, and eternal fellowship with Christian family members and friends! What a wonderful gift!

(See: Luke 10:25-27; John 3:14-16; John 6:38-40; John 17:3-5; Romans 2:5-8; 1 John 5:20)

May you be blessed in 2022! Sincerely, Cheryl & Dudley

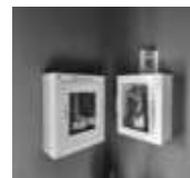
## Food Pantry Update

At this time several areas in the Food Pantry are well stocked: canned vegetables, canned peaches and pears, canned beans (kidney, etc.), canned tomatoes (diced, sauce, etc.), peanut butter, tuna fish, mac and cheese, and pasta (spaghetti, elbows, etc.). Some areas, however, have been depleted with the recent successful holiday distribution. These include: cereal, jams & jellies, “Helper” style meals, canned pasta (Chef Boyardee meals), canned chili, sloppy joe and stew, packaged seasoned pasta and rice mixes, boxed potatoes, baking mixes (cake, brownies, etc.), condiments, and juice. Thank you for helping to keep the pantry stocked for those less fortunate in our community.



## TRUSTEE NOTES

“Stop the Bleed” kits and Automated External Defibrillator Kits have been purchased and installed at the head of the stairs in the upstairs hallway and downstairs in Wesley Hall.



### Holiday



The **Holiday Assistance Program**, coordinated by the Cuba Council of Churches, is a true community effort involving the Cuba Rushford School, Chamber of Commerce and volunteers from area churches and community. Under the direction of Amy Mattison and Pastor Jon Ward, this year’s program served 51 families that included 119 children.

### Assistance

Each family household received a \$50 voucher to Giant Food Mart, and \$50 vouchers per child in the household for Cuba Family Dollar and/or Cuba Pharmacy. They also filled two bags with groceries from the Food Pantry and picked from gently used donated toys and winter clothing. In cooperation with the Toys for Kids program of the Cuba Chamber of Commerce, pre-selected new gifts based on the children’s ages were also distributed.

Many people made the program a success. Elementary students from Cuba-Rushford Central School contributed to the Food Pantry with decorated paper bags filled with dry non-perishable food items. Fifth grade students, assisted by school personnel, helped get these bags into the Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for sorting, and received hot chocolate and cookies in appreciation for their efforts. Cuba Rushford high school students brought food up to the Fellowship Hall from the Food Pantry ... many, many stair steps are involved in the process! Donuts and hot chocolate were enjoyed by this group after their involvement.

Volunteers from the Cuba churches sorted food donations prior to the distribution and were also on hand the day of the distribution to help families with their packages. And, of course, there is the clean-up at the end when any leftover food is returned to the Food Pantry and the Baptist Fellowship Hall returned to order. Thank you to all who helped with this program, whether with monetary contributions, food or clothing donations, or by physically helping with set-up, distribution and/or clean-up.

*“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” – Colossians 3:17*

*(Pastor Becky’s letter continued from front page)*

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.  
Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know he holds the future.  
And life is worth the living, just because He lives!

Keep God first in this New Year, and you will be amazed at the things God will do in you, through you, and for you!

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Becky

## CHILDEN SPEAK

A mother was teaching her three-year-old The Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, the child repeated it after the mother. Then one night the child was ready to solo. The mother listened with pride to the carefully enunciated words, right up to the end. 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us some e-mail'.



A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'



After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, 'That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys!'



**Sunday Worship Services  
are streamed live  
on our website,  
[www.cubaumc.org](http://www.cubaumc.org)**



**and also on our Facebook Page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/Cuba-United-Methodist-Church-533879670015081>



Go to "Sermons" page on our website  
to watch archived videos.

DVDs of entire services or only the  
sermons are available.



**Trustees Meeting** Wednesday, January 12, 2022  
6:00 pm

**Management Team Meeting** January 12, 2022  
6:45 pm

**JANUARY 2022**

SUNDAY  
WORSHIP  
SERVICE  
11:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 UMW Food Pantry Collection Bible Study 9:30 am	3	4 Prayer Group 10:00 am	5	6	7	8
9 Bible Study 9:40 am	10	11 Prayer Group 10:00 am	12	13	14	15
16 Bible Study 9:40 am Human Relations Day Offering	17 February Newsletter Deadline Noon	18 Prayer Group 10:00 am	19	20	21	22
23 Bible Study 9:40 am	24	25 Prayer Group 10:00 am	26	27	28	29
30 Gil's Hills Offering	31					

# The Shepherd's Messenger

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*The Shepherd's Messenger* is a publication of the Cuba United Methodist Church, and is published monthly to report news & keep members and friends informed of church programs and events. Deadline for article submission is the third Monday of each month at noon. Please email articles to Editor's email address, or drop articles off to the church office.

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